

Message Text

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11

ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FCC-01 OTPE-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 OC-06 USIA-06 COME-00 BIB-01 ACDA-07

DODE-00 PM-04 L-03 NASA-01 NSC-05 ERDA-05 OES-06

NEA-10 EA-07 /089 R

DRAFTED BY EB/TD:ALFREEMAN:PB

APPROVED BY EB/TD:GLHUFFCUTT

EUR/WE - MR. HUMPHREY

FCC - MR. GREENBURG (INFO)

OTP - CAPTAIN ADAMS (INFO)

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R 280128Z AUG 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 213902

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETEL, GW

SUBJECT: INMARSAT

REF: A) BONN 14282; B) STATE 206236

1. PARA 3 REFTEL B REPORTED NAVY AND MARISAT CONSORTIUM WERE CONSIDERING POSSIBILITY OF INDIAN OCEAN SERVICE, ALTHOUGH PLANS NOT FIRM AND USG APPROVALS NOT SOUGHT AT THAT TIME.

2. USG REPS WERE BRIEFED AUGUST 27 BY CONSORTIUM MANAGER (COMSAT GENERAL CORPORATION) ON STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH NAVY, ARRANGEMENTS WITH JAPANESE ENTITY FOR LOCATION OF CERTAIN CONTROL EQUIPMENT IN JAPAN, AND FILINGS FOR USG
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APPROVALS. CONSORTIUM HAS REACHED AGREEMENT WITH NAVY

CONTRACT OFFICER AND BELIEVES FINAL NAVY APPROVAL WILL BE FORTHCOMING WITHIN TWO WEEKS. SATELLITE LAUNCH IS PLANNED FOR OCTOBER 14, 1976 AND TARGET DATE FOR USN SERVICE IS DECEMBER 1976. SATELLITE WAS BUILT AS PART OF ORIGINAL PROCUREMENT AND INTENDED AS SPARE ON GROUND. IT WILL NOW BE AN OPERATIONAL IN-ORBIT SPARE, AND MOVED TO ATLANTIC OR PACIFIC OCEAN LOCATION SHOULD THERE BE A FAILURE IN THE ATLANTIC OR PACIFIC SATELLITES. CONSORTIUM HAS ALSO REACHED AGREEMENT WITH JAPANESE ENTITY TO PLACE TRACKING, TELEMETRY AND CONTROL EQUIPMENT IN JAPAN IN TIME

TO MEET SERVICE REQUIREMENT. FINALLY, CONSORTIUM FILED MODIFICATION TO THE MARISAT CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND REQUEST FOR AUTHORITY TO LAUNCH SATELLITE WITH FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION (FCC) AUGUST 27.

3. ALTHOUGH NAVY AND JAPANESE ENTITY RECOGNIZE THAT FILINGS WITH FCC ARE MATTER OF PUBLIC RECORD, EACH WOULD APPRECIATE MINIMAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION PENDING FINAL USN APPROVAL AND GOJ APPROVAL. EMBASSY SHOULD SEEK OPPORTUNITY

TO CLARIFY INDIAN OCEAN SITUATION WITH JAENICKE, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT NAVY AND JAPANESE REQUESTS. KISSINGER

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